



## SAINT MARY PARISH

327 VERNONT AVENUE | OAK RIDGE, TN 37830 | 865.482.2875 [STMARYSOAKRIDGE.ORG](http://STMARYSOAKRIDGE.ORG)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024**

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16



# Saint Mary Parish

stmarysoakridge.org

## Parish Office Hours

Monday- Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM\*

\*Closed for Lunch 12:00 - 12:30

Parish Office Phone: 865.482.2875

## Pastoral Team

Fr. Ray Powell, **Pastor**

Fr. Neil Blatchford, **Associate Pastor**

**Deacon** Gary Sega

**Deacon** John DeClue

**Deacon** Dave Duhamel

**Deacon** Agustin Ortega

## Daily Mass Schedule

Monday - Saturday 8:00AM

Wednesday 6:00PM

## Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday (Vigil) 5:30PM

Sunday 8:00AM; 10:30AM;

12:30PM (Spanish)

La santa misa en español los domingos  
a las 12:30 pm

## Confession Opportunities

Wednesdays at 6:30pm,

Saturdays at 8:30am

## Leadership Team

Parish Office Manager - Kathy Mesmer

Lay Ministries Coordinator &

Director of Religious Education - Cyndi Panter

Facilities Manager - Russell Overland

Bookkeeper - Denise Miller

Assistant Bookkeeper - Bailey Broussard

Director of Youth Ministry - Kristen Walsh

Director of Events & Social Outreach - Sarah Stitz

Parish Secretary - Maureen Romanoski

Associate Music Director - Jodi Harbin

Safe Environment Coordinator - Denise Miller

Bulletin Coordinator - Monica Price

Licensed Professional Counselor - John Thompson

Admissions &

Communications Coordinator - Hannah McFadden

### ROSARY INTENTION:

Through the intercession of St. Lucy may we bring the light of Christ to those without hope.



Join us in the CHAPEL to pray the rosary after the Saturday 5:30 pm Mass and Sunday 8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses.

## Parish QR Codes



Parish  
Registration

Latest  
News

On-line  
Giving

Youth  
Group

You-Tube  
Channel



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 14

8:00 AM † Eugene & Lucille Thompson  
5:00 PM † Roger & Janie Bollinger

### Sunday, December 15

8:00 AM Living & Deceased members of KoC  
10:30 AM Pro Populo  
12:30 PM Marlene Guzman

### Monday, December 16

6:30 AM Verano de al Rosa Family  
8:00 AM † Lela M Gipson Boch

### Tuesday, December 17

6:30 AM † Margaret Mihalczo  
8:00 AM † Kevin Abbiatiello

### Wednesday, December 18

8:00 AM † Seymour & Larose Clark  
6:00 PM CCW Intentions

### Thursday, December 19

6:30 AM † Tony Papa  
8:00 AM † Ann Kokalj Glowienka

### Friday, December 20

6:30 AM Aramayo Verano Family  
8:00 AM U.S. Military & 1st Responders

### Saturday, December 21

8:00 AM † Benedict & Anne Giannelli  
5:00 PM Pro Populo

### Sunday, December 22

8:00 AM † Isabelle Heaney  
10:30 AM † Kevin Abbiatiello  
12:30 PM Familia Vazquez Herrera

† Denotes Deceased Person(s)

## WEEK AT A GLANCE



### Sunday, December 15

9:00 AM Religious Education (School)  
9:00 AM Confirmation Preparation (Youth Bldg)  
9:00 & 11:30 AM KoC Breakfast (Social Hall)  
3:15 PM Sunday Vespers & Fellowship (Church/Social Hall)  
7:00 PM Sr. High Game Night (Youth Bldg)  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)  
7:00 PM Rosary Group (Chapel)

### Monday, December 16

*Church & Chapel Closed 9am-6pm*  
6:00 PM Boy Scouts (Social Hall)  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)

### Tuesday, December 17

*Church & Chapel Closed 9am-6pm*  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)

### Wednesday, December 18

10:00 AM St. Joseph's Food Pantry  
2:00 PM Jr. Legion of Mary (Youth Bldg)  
2:15 PM Young Peoples Choir Rehearsal (Church)  
6:00 PM Becoming Catholic (Social Hall)  
7:00 PM St Charles Study Group (Youth Bldg)  
7:00 PM Sr. High Youth Group (Youth Bldg)  
7:00 PM Friends of Bill W. (Social Hall Mtg Rm)  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)

### Thursday, December 19

7:00 PM Middle School Youth Group (Youth Bldg)  
8:00 PM Gathering Feast for Our Lady of Guadalupe (Social Hall)

### Friday, December 20

5:00 PM Little Advent Stations (Chapel)  
5:30 PM Parent's Night Out (Gym)  
6:00 PM Middle School Youth Grp Movie Night (Youth Bldg)  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)

### Saturday, December 21

9:30 AM Legion of Mary (Social Hall Mtg Room)  
2:00 PM Altar Server Training (Church)  
5:30 PM St. Nick Workshop (White Elephant)  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)

### Sunday, December 22

9:00 AM Religious Education (School)  
9:00 AM Confirmation Preparation (Youth Bldg)  
9:00 & 11:30 AM Coffee & Donuts (Social Hall)  
9:00 & 11:30 AM St. Nick Workshop (White Elephant)  
3:15 PM Sunday Vespers & Fellowship (Church/Social Hall)  
7:00 PM Las Posadas (Church)  
7:00 PM Rosary Group (Chapel)

*Please be sure to check the myParish app or the facilities calendar on the parish website for additional events and changes to the list published here.*

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

Though church and state be separate, the health of a state depends on the Church's guidance regarding the rights of man and the salvation of souls: "Every institution is inspired, at least implicitly, by a vision of man and his destiny. . . . Only the divinely revealed religion has clearly recognized man's origin and destiny in God, the Creator and Redeemer. The Church invites political authorities to measure their judgments and decisions against this inspired truth about God and man: 'Societies not recognizing this vision or rejecting it in the name of their independence from God are brought to seek their criteria and goal in themselves or to borrow them from some ideology. Since they do not admit that one can defend an objective criterion of good and evil, they arrogate to themselves an explicit or implicit totalitarian power over man and his destiny, as history shows'" (CCC 2244).



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BREAKFAST THIS WEEKEND

#### Breakfast Includes

- ◊ Fluffy Pancakes
- ◊ Scrambled Eggs
- ◊ Buttery Biscuits
- ◊ Breakfast Potatoes
- ◊ Sausage
- ◊ Crispy Bacon
- ◊ Fresh Sausage Gravy
- ◊ Creamy Cheesy Grits
- ◊ Fresh Cut Fruit
- ◊ Hot Coffee
- ◊ Milk & Orange Juice
- ◊ French Toast!



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**

Council 3175



**THIS Sunday  
December 15th**  
after the 8am and  
10:30am masses  
**\$6 per person, \$20 for  
a family of 4 or more**



### **PARENTS Night Out**

Have some more Christmas shopping to do?  
Drop your kids with us!



Ages 4 and up

\$20 per child,  
Not to exceed \$100 per family.

**FRIDAY DEC 20  
5:30pm-9:00pm**

**Activities:**  Drinks  Games  Movies  Pizza

**LOCATION: SCHOOL GYM**  
**EMAIL SARAH TO SIGN-UP**  
**WE@STMARYSOAKRIDGE.ORG**



**ATTN: PARISHIONERS & ADORERS**  
*Fire Alarm System Installation*

**CHURCH & CHAPEL**

**CLOSED**

**Monday, December 16th**  
**Tuesday, December 17th**

**2024**

### **YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS**

As the end of the year comes to an end, we begin to reflect upon the many blessings bestowed upon us. It also provides a wonderful opportunity to thank God for these blessings.

#### **CONSIDER**



This is also the time of year when people consider giving charitable contributions to their favorite charities. We hope that you consider Saint Mary Parish as one of your favorites.

#### **PLAN**



As you plan your taxes, consider using the income tax charitable deduction. Your year-end gift can reduce your taxes and support Saint Mary Parish. Charitable giving often lowers your taxes, depending on your tax bracket. Beyond tax savings, your gifts significantly impact our work at Saint Mary Parish.



#### **NOTES**

For your contribution to be considered a 2024 charitable tax deduction:

**The below ACTIONS must be done on,  
or before Tuesday, December 31, 2024**

\* Mailed and/or postmarked

\* Placed in the collection basket

\* Physically delivered to the Parish Office

#### **CALL TO ACTION**

For your convenience, Saint Mary Parish accepts online payments. You can make payments with your debit card, credit card, or through your checking/savings bank account at: <https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-2204?tab=home>



#### **THANK YOU**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
GENEROSITY!

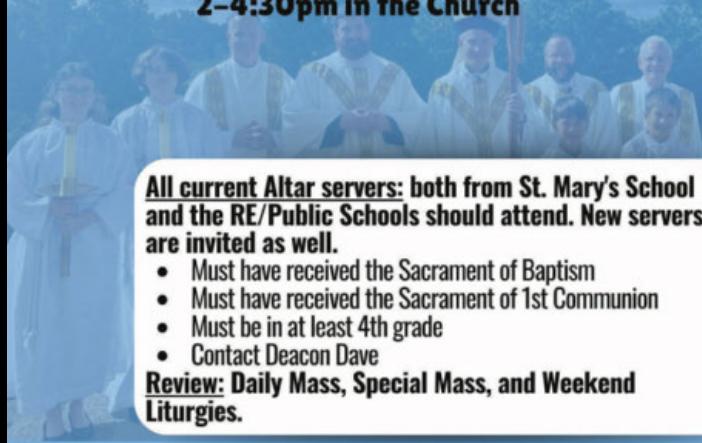


## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# ALTAR SERVERS

Advent Social & Refresher Training

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST**  
2-4:30pm in the Church

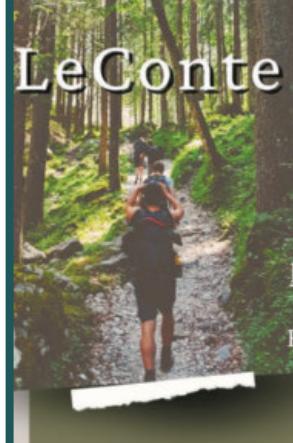


**All current Altar servers: both from St. Mary's School and the RE/Public Schools should attend. New servers are invited as well.**

- Must have received the Sacrament of Baptism
- Must have received the Sacrament of 1st Communion
- Must be in at least 4th grade
- Contact Deacon Dave

**Review: Daily Mass, Special Mass, and Weekend Liturgies.**

**Needed:** supervision-2 parents/Christmas snacks & drinks  
**RSVP:** by Wed, Dec 18th - [Dcn.dave@stmarysoakridge.org](mailto:Dcn.dave@stmarysoakridge.org)



Once again, we have secured two dates in 2025 to stay overnight at the world-famous Mt. LeConte Lodge.

Join us for this St. Mary tradition for a one-night stay on Thursday, May 29, 2025, or Thursday, August 28, 2025.

Cost is \$208 per person for the 2 meals & overnight stay.

Please contact Rodd Daigle at [hikeleconte@icloud.com](mailto:hikeleconte@icloud.com) if interested in the May date, or Karen Swabe at [swabbay@bellsouth.net](mailto:swabbay@bellsouth.net) if interested in the August date.

We are requesting payment by December 20, 2024.



*Please join us in welcoming*

**Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers**  
*"The Dynamic Deacon"*

For a limited speaking engagement on January 3rd, 2025 at 6:00 pm and January 4th, 2025 at 10:00 am at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Farragut, TN

**FRIDAY EVENING FAMILY TALK:**  
(All ages are welcome)

Go and Make Disciples:  
The Call to Evangelization

**SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S TALK:**

Putting on the Armor of God:  
Preparing for Spiritual Combat

**JANUARY 3rd TICKETS:**



More information about Deacon Harold and the Mustang Dads Club at [www.deaconharold.com](http://www.deaconharold.com) [www.mustangdads.org](http://www.mustangdads.org)

**JANUARY 4th TICKETS:**



*Sponsored by the*



**White Elephant Thrift Store Hosting**

**St. Nick's Workshop**  
Saturday, December 21st  
Sunday, December 22nd



**"WE" invites little ones to come experience the joy of giving! The St. Nick's Workshop will be open after the weekend Masses, offering a shopping and gift-wrapping experience for kids.**



**White Elephant Thrift Store**

**CLOSED**  
**DECEMBER 23rd**  
**through**  
**JANUARY 6th**

**OPEN for Donations**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### December Schedule:

Dec. 15th - CLASS

Dec. 22nd - CLASS

Dec. 29th - NO CLASS

### Reminders:

The Confirmation Retreat has been rescheduled to January 18, 2025 from 1-7pm in the Youth Building

On Sunday mornings, please park your car, drop off (9am) and pick up (10:15am) your children in their classroom.

## Youth Ministry

### THIS WEEKEND after Mass

December 14th @ 6pm



### CHRISTMAS PARADE

"Home for the Holidays"



### Senior High

Sunday, December 15th - Game Night  
Wednesday, December 18th - Christmas Party\*

### Middle School

Thursday, December 19th - Christmas Party\*  
Friday, December 20th - Movie Night

\*Christmas attire encouraged & (optional) \$5 gift exchange

Contact Kristen at [youth@stmarysoakridge.org](mailto:youth@stmarysoakridge.org) for more details and/or to volunteer with this ministry.

## RE Families



A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU  
TO OUR RE FAMILIES!!!

On November 24th, our 3rd & 4th grade Religious Education Classes hosted a "Baby Shower for the Blessed Mother". We had a lovely breakfast and celebrated our beginning of Advent by bringing gifts for Jesus.

We collected an **amazing amount of baby items!** These gifts will go with the items collected at the CCW Christ Shower to Choices Resource Center and Catholic Charities Pregnancy Center, Knoxville.

## Little Advent Stations

All ages welcome!  
5:00 pm in the Chapel

Friday, December 20th

For questions contact -  
[anna.duhamel@comcast.net](mailto:anna.duhamel@comcast.net)



### Prayers for the Holy Innocents

—from long ago and for now!

Several parishes have signed up for one hour of prayer in honor of lost innocent life, outside of Planned Parenthood on Friday, December 27, 2024.

St Mary's hour is 11am. Join us!

Email Maureen to carpool at [mfricke224@gmail.com](mailto:mfricke224@gmail.com)





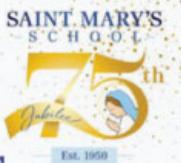
# Saint Mary's School

Principal - Sr. Mary John, O.P.

Assistant Principal - Kendall Doogan

865-483-9700

[school.stmarysoakridge.org](http://school.stmarysoakridge.org)



## An Advent Prayer for the Family

Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you.

Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you.

Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.

Artwork: Amelia Budzinski

# Celebrate



St. Mary's School's  
Diamond Jubilee  
with an  
exclusive hoodie.

For sale after Mass on  
Sunday, December 15th.  
Adult Sizes: \$35  
Youth Sizes: \$27

THIS WEEKEND

The core purpose of CASA of the Tennessee Heartland is to provide a voice for abused and neglected children in Anderson and Blount counties. As a non-profit, volunteer-based agency, their mission is to empower CASA volunteers to advocate on behalf of abused and neglected children in juvenile court. CASA's vision is to provide a court-appointed volunteer advocate for every child who needs one.



Items collected to be wrapped by the 8th grade students & presented to CASA

Saint Mary's School  
8TH GRADE

## ANGEL TREE for CASA

Please pick a tag(s) from the school tree.  
Deliver donations to school office by  
**December 18th**  
with tag(s) attached



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865-483-1906  
EXT 6000



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# BILOSKI & MILLER



Lauren R. Biloski   Channing Miller  
**865-264-4887**

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Serving The Saint Mary  
Community  
**(865) 691-1697**



#GiveToTheMissions  
ON GIVING TUESDAY  
December 3rd  
2024



May God Bless you and keep you  
is our prayer for you today.

**(865)  
435-1505**

